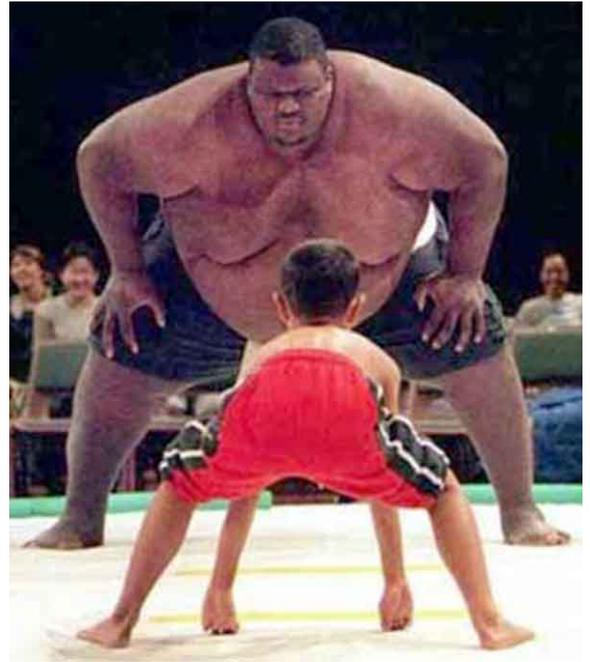


"And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them. But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land. Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Selahammahlekoth." 1 Samuel 23:26-28 KJV



"Selahammahlekoth (Rock of portions)" Saul meant to kill David, was poised to strike, and suddenly had a bigger problem. The Philistines invaded and his own life was now in jeopardy! Just when David thought, "Surely, all is lost!" God Taught him a valuable lesson. You can trust God in the face of even death itself! David later wrote, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou Art With me. I will say of the LORD, He Is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust." To others who trusted God faced with impossibilities he wrote, "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee." If God is your "Selahammahlekoth," your enemy may come nose to nose with you, but never touch you. Satan, nonplused by the protection God Had Afforded Job, remarked to God, "Hast not Thou Made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side?" How did Satan know there was a hedge? How did he know that there was no way in if he hadn't been trying to get in? God was Job's Portion and not even Satan could touch him without permission! Job's losses were God-Purposed to purify Job's Faith and showcase God's Protection. Even Job's lovely wife said, "Dost thou still retain thine integrity? Curse God, and die." Job quickly replied, "What? Shall we receive good at the Hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD Gave, and the LORD Hath Taken Away; Blessed be the Name of the LORD." God Knew Job would say that before he said it; He just wanted Satan to hear it! C. H. Spurgeon said, "God never is before His time and never is behind!" Just when you think all is lost, think again. God created time and He controls it. He froze time for a whole day so Joshua could defeat his foe (Joshua 10) and even reversed time for King Hezekiah. (II Kings 20 - Isaiah 38) God will make time to defeat your enemies. Edward Mote wrote in the hymn, "The Solid Rock;"

His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

God Removed Pharaoh's chariot wheels right before He Let the Red Sea collapse on his head! The wheels are still there and have just recently been discovered. Just when Pharaoh thought to flee, he couldn't! What do you suppose Goliath thought just before David's stone hit him? He probably thought, "This is gonna be a cake-walk!" Walk with God and you walk Eternally Safe! The wicked may well persecute and kill God's child, but only if God Allows it, and if He Does, there's something better a coming! I'm not suicidal, not even close, but I'm not afraid of death for it would be refusing a Personal Invitation to finally be with my God! Like John R. Rice told the mugger in the elevator, "You can't threaten ME with Heaven, young man!" God Will Bring me Home in His Time for His Glory.

"Henceforth there is Laid Up for me A Crown of Righteousness, Which The Lord, The Righteous Judge, Shall Give Me At That Day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His Appearing." 2 Timothy 4:8 KJV